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# A CERTAINE AND PERFECT RE- LATION OF THE ENCOVN- TER AND BLOODY SLAUGHTER which is newly happened betwene the Mar- quesse *spinolas* forces, and the forces within the Towne of *Breda*, occasioned by the enemies surprisal of a wood who at length tooke it in, by which meanes he is ap- proched very neere to the Towne, although with the losse of a great number of his men, and fие of his chiefest Commanders.

With the copie of a Letter sent by the Marquis  
*spinola* to the Archduesses of Austria, the which was inter-  
cepted by the Prince of Oranges horsmen, to this ef-  
fect, openly shewing his priuate intent for what cau-  
ses he must of necessitie leauue the siege of *Breda*,  
and would haue done before now, had it not  
*becne that bee must haue indangered to haue  
left his Ordnance behind him.*

Likewise a confirmatiue rehearsall of relieuing the Towne  
of *Breda* after a new inuention, with the Prince of Oranges  
designes, both to annoy the enemy, and drowne  
their trenches.

Printed at London by *B. A.* for THOMAS ARCHER, and are  
to be folde at his shop in Popes head Alley, ouer against  
the signe of the Horse-shoe, 1625.

ΑΓΙΑΣ ΕΛΕΗΜΟΝΙΑΣ ΚΑΙ ΣΥΝΕΛΕΥΣΙΣ  
ΤΗΣ ΑΓΙΩΝ ΠΑΝΤΩΝ ΤΟΥ ΚΟΡΑΚΟΥ

Επί της Αγίας Ελέημονιας η οποία είναι στην περιοχή της Αγίας Ελέημονιας, μεταξύ της Αγίας Ελέημονιας και της Αγίας Μαρίας Βασιλικής, στην περιοχή της Αγίας Ελέημονιας, μεταξύ της Αγίας Ελέημονιας και της Αγίας Μαρίας Βασιλικής.

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# A RELATION OF ALL THE PASSAGES which happened betwene the Campe of *Spinola*, and the Towne of *Breda*, as wee are credibly certified, and certainly informed.

I doubt not, but it is without doubt that it hath  
beene newes to most men, that they haue beene  
so long without newes; but there is onely one  
supreme power, whom the Wind and Seas obey:  
as for man, he must purpose, but God determines,  
for howsoeuer it was our desire to satisfie the  
desire of men, whose nature is, *nouitatis amida*, yet  
through the aduersitie of the winds wee were fru-  
strate a long time of our intelligence, neither were  
the winds onely opposite to our appetites, but wee  
were hindred by another vnfourtunate distaster, for  
a Pinke, of which one *Blaftonale* of Flushing a  
duchman was owner, in the which, the Post from  
*Holland* was a passenger, and was vnhappily sur-  
prised and taken by the Dunkerkes, all the men in  
it being captiuated and carried to Oastend, the

which vessell was chiefly loden with English Merchants goods, which according to estimation did amount to the value of twelue thousand pounds sterlinc, one of those which were to be transported in it, haning at the least a thousand pounds in gold about him: neither was there likely to haue beene a period of the Spaniards prise, for Blaston le himselfe in another Pinke of his, was too neare a companion in the like danger, being likely to share with the former ship in the same misfortune, but he most luckily espying the other Pinke taken (as report and fame informes vs) did speedily retire homeward, by which flight (as most men coniecture) he made a safe and successfull escape out of the Pawes of his enemies and hee was freed from the furie of his foes.

Left therefore our intelligence from Breda might seeme strange and fabulous to many people, and they may giue no credit to our Relation concerning the passages in that place, in regard that they may suppose wee could not attaine to the knowledge of these affaires: these are to notifie vnto them, that although indeede, wee haue had nothing to vnderstand, according to our former manner and forme of receiuing intelligence; yet by another accident wee haue accomplished it: for althoughe indeede by the contrarietie and opposition of the winds, wee could not enjoy the

Newes

Newes of forraine parts , yet by the meanes  
of the land passengers wee haue purchased  
the possession of them , for there was a Post  
which passed through Flaunders into France,  
and so from Calice sayled to this our soyle,  
by whom we haue this intelligence.

Howsoeuer , indeede it is still confirmed ,  
that the Italian and the Quarter Van *Pauo Baglion* , were compelled to remoue , and their  
Forts dimolished by the late invndation of the  
Marke : and there was a two-fold ayde af-  
foorded to the Towne by that meane , in  
regard there was not onely a carrying in , of  
all necessarie prouision , but also a bringing  
out of the lame impotent people , who were  
fit for no imployments , that might either pro-  
cure the safetie or securitie of the Towne ,  
whose feeble limmes beeing vnable to sup-  
port themselves , did rather preiudice then  
promise preseruation to it , yet notwithstanding  
the Towne hath not receiued reliefe af-  
ter such a measure , though in some manner a-  
foresaid .

Moreover , *Margaeſſe spinola* hath of late  
hit a Marke which he long aymed at , for where-  
as there was a great dense thicke wood , seated be-  
tweene

tweene his Leager and the Towne, lying neere adioyning to the way from the Towne to Antwerp, bordering vpon one of the corners, the which they laboured by all possible meanes to detaine his forces from the entrance, in regard it would no lesse aduantage their enemy, then indamage themselues: for who is ignorant what odds it is for their aduersary to haue his forces so incamped, that they shall haue libertie at any time to assault and batter the Towne, the which they might more opportunely doe, in regard they were neerer adioyning to it, and safely retire afore they had requited the iniury which they had receiued; all which benefits the wood could affoord them, in regard they being planted in it, might charge the Towne without discouery, and in the meane time themselues bee obscured from the fight, and so secured from the shot of the inhabitants; the which wood *spinolas* forces haue lately gained, whereby they are neeter the Towne, and haue hope to make more powerful and successfull assaults against it. Thus you haue heard the fortunes of our foes forces, and the successe of their enterpris; but as I will not bee partiall of our side, so giue mee leauue to speake the truth, and let mee not onely bee the relater of bad, but also the Messenger of glad tidings, and let mee mingle honey with my gall, that as the good successe of our enemies may make vs humble, so the prosperite of our friends may make vs thankfull.

For although the forces of *Spinola* got entraunce into the Wood: yet with much difficultie and great effusion of blood. For the Towne perciuing the project, and discerning the drift of *Spinola*, labouir to hinder and stay him from attayning to his intended scope, and to withhold him from the ends of his intents, who seeking the safety of the Towne, and indeuouring to preuent him of his purposes, sallied out to see if they could giue him the repulse, when as they did with no lesse valour defend themselues then to offend their aduersaries, and behaued themselues with such vndanuted courage, that with a little losse of their owne men, they ouerthrew fifteene hundred of the enemies. In which combat impartiall death which knocketh aswell at the Portalls of Princes pallaces, as at the doores of poore mens cottages, arrested five of *Spinolas* chiefe Commaunders who were slayne in the company. Thus though they gained the wood, yet they lost their blood: the which as it hath beene flesht the inhabitantes of the towne (who still are earnest and humble suiters to God to be their protector, and to rayse them some friends, which may rayse the fiedge of their enemies,) So it can not choose but a little fright and iare *Spinola* to see the towne so strong; though after so long a

siedge to encounter with him, nay I had almost sayd to conquer him and giue him the ouerthrow.

Neuerthelesse, I dare say the Towne could wish that either the Wood were fired, or their foes farther from it, for the remouall of whom, it is supposed that the Towne and the Prince of *Orange* hane intended this stratagem, *viz.* To cut a ditch in the banke of the riuier, whereby since they cannot fire the wood, they will drowne it: and so force them by that meanes to forsake it, the which is probable and likely to be done, in regard of the aboundinge of raine which hath late-ly falle in those parts, doth threaten such a deluge without their assistance, and without the putting off their art or armes, in execu-tion, so that notwithstanding the Towne doth still retayne a strong hope and firme perswas-ion, that they will be forced to loose that wood, (which indeed is now to them a strong fort and bulwarke) with no lesse sor-row then they found it: which if as they do, it will be very benifitiall; so if they do not, it will bee very preiudicitall and harme-full vnto them.

Neither

Neither let me omit to relate the late burriall of the fiue Commaunders of Spinolaes campe , as I haue formerly told you of their departure , who after they had giuen ouer the wearisome pilgrimage of this life , their corps were carried in a cart to *Antwerp* : who after long lamentation and much mourning for the losse of so worthy captaines and courageous leaders made by the linnen people , and the excessiue sorrow of the Marquesse for the being depriued of those in whome the anchor of his hope of conquest was wholly fixed , they referred their bodies to the wombes from whence they first had being , and committed them to the earth , which is the matter out of which all men are produced.

Moreouer wee vnderstand that the Prince of *Orange* by a new strange vnheard of Strategem , doth dayly and hourelly intend to send succour and reliefe vnto the towne , for he hath inuented certaine flat bottome boates , which draw very little water, that he may saile in any place of the riuier as conueniency doth require : in which boates he hath aswell planted pieces of Ordinance aboue deck , as pla-

ced Muskatiers below, whereby he may send deadly messengers to those enemies that are remote aswell as those that are propinque and neere at hand : whereby it is to be hoped for, that will the enemie, or nill he , he will transport sustenance vnto the towne , for the wa-ters deny the enemy such free accesse as formerly he had , and likewyse this new deuise doth carry more likelihood of helping the towne to necessary prouision.

Neither is there onely this probability doth promise them assistance , for they haue cer- taine succour by this meanes which follow- eth: For some men being led as by the ar- dent zeale and affection which they beare to the towne , as the mortall hatred which they owe to the enemy , haue shaked hands with, feare and valiantly ventred their liues for the assistance of their friendes , who hauing made themselves long boates which doe come vp to their croth , they doe vsually waide through the water , and by stealth carrie vpon their backes burthens of bread and butter , whereby the towne doth reape no small relief.

We haue likewise in telligence by the copie of a letter sent from Marquesst Spinola, to the Arch-duchesse, the which was intercepted by some of the Prince of Oranges Free-boeters: The contents of which were to this effect as followeth.

B 3

To





TO THE ILLVS-  
TRIO VS, HIGH AND  
Mighty Princesse, *Isabella Clara*  
*Eugenia, Austria, Infanta of Spaine,*  
*Duchesse of Burgundie, and*  
*Brabant, Countesse of*  
*Flanders.*



OST Illustrious Prin-  
cess: There is no man  
can build vpon the cer-  
tainty of fate in this  
World, for Fortune  
is always fickle, con-  
stant in nothing but in-  
constancy, and like the  
Moone euer changing, for who doth surely  
know

know, or can determine the successse of he  
Warres, or who can diue into the drift of  
destiny, humaine frailty in this transitory  
life, is like a Ship sayling vpon the Ocean,  
sometimes driuen by a prosperous Gale of  
Winde to the wisht for Port, and desired  
Hauen: And sometimes hauing a repulse by  
an aduerse Winde, intertayneth no hope of  
helpe, but is ready euery moment and each  
instant of time, to be rackt vpon the Rocke  
of misfortune, and to be swallowed vp in the  
depth and abisse of misery.

I need not range abroad into Forraigne  
nations for an example, alas I haue a tast of  
the same greife in my owne bosome: for  
it is not consealed from your gratiouse high-  
nesse, nor yet obscured and hidd, from the  
intellect and vnderstanding of most parts  
of Christendome, what hopes (and them-  
not built vpon the sands of vnlike'yhoods,  
but cuen all most certainties, if there bee  
certaintie in sublunary affaires) iustly wee  
had conceiued of the captiuating of the be-  
sieged Towne of *Breda*.

The which did languish, with the fcearcity of  
able men, and of food, and sustenance, so that  
indeed I had not the least doubt, but that  
either

either I should force them to yeald, or sa-  
mish them.

But when it came to the vpshot, and  
our hoped for conquest seemed to grow  
to ripenesse and maturity, the heauens did  
seeme to crosse our projects, and to set a  
*non plus ultra* to our desigues.

For seeming as if they had fought a-  
gainst vs, and powerd downe ayd to our  
enemies, there fell such great store of rayne  
as it remoued two of our quarters, and ru-  
ined the forts; by which meanes the Towne  
receiuued releife from the enemie, and doth  
*resumere vires*: and gather strength, like a  
sicke man recouerd: the feeble are growne  
powerfull, the dispayring hopefull, the  
cowardly coragious, and howsocuer for-  
merly their hearts seemed as it were broken,  
yet now like a bone once crackt and reset,  
they are growne more strong and able:  
they haue victuall sufficient to serue them  
halfe a yeere, as the generall report informes  
vs: but wee are not able so long to conti-  
nue the siedge, in regard of the tediousnes  
of the winter, which our mens constitiuion  
cannot tollerate.

As

as also in respect of the sicknesse in our Campe. The impotencie and weake-  
nesse of our men , who seeme a great  
deale more fitter to entertaine a Coffine,  
then to maintaine a Combatte : And  
whose Brusfed and Brocken Bodies are  
redy to surrender their Soules into the  
hands of their Creator. Neither am I  
any waies able to make a full discription  
of our wants, which are almost past re-  
lation. For how are wee able to con-  
tinue the Siedge, or withstand our Ene-  
mies, which doe of all sides inuiorne vs,  
and before and betweene threaten de-  
struction to our Campe , whose forces  
doe still threaten destruction to our  
Campe. For what if Count *Manſfield*  
should set vpon vs , who as they are  
transcending vs in power , soe they are  
fresh , able of body , valiant of minde,  
full of vigor , and couragious , and so  
in euery respect vnequall matches, to o-  
mitte to speake of the Prince of *Oranges*  
army which doth continually labour to  
intercept our prouision , and to serue vs  
with the same sauce wee prouided for  
the Towne , whose forces being thought  
not aboue ours in respect of the warres,  
yet farre more powerfull in regard they

haue their full of Victualles, which now doe lye incamped at Rosendale, alwaies watching occasion to effect that , which they menace too wish our ouerthrow, but I cannot forget, neither the scarcitie of money , as well as meate in our Campe , which indeede bee the very Sinewes of the warres, which hold the Companies together , for it is probable, that the Souldiers will not continue their Siedge , except we continue our pay. Will they lye in the cold: indure the hunger , nakednesse , and all the miseries , almost this world can inflict vpon a man, and haue noe gaines for their paines ?

The Husband man will nor longer plow that ground , which yeeldes him noe increase , the Marriner saile into that Countrey , from whence hee can haue noe Traffique , nor the Souldier serue that Captaine , which cannot pay him, if it the want of meate , from whence weakenesse , and sickenesse haue their birth, and it is the want of money which is the Mother of mutinge, which force-  
eth

eth forces to flye from their colours, hunger breaketh stone walles , much more causeth the Souldier if his legges will giue him leaue , or if hee bee not to feble to walke , to forsake his Comander in the open field.

In deede my army is perplext with millions of miseries , for Nakednesse hath taken possession of my Souldies backes , hunger of their bellies , cold , of their persons , pouertie of their purses , and that I may include much matter in one word , they haue no obiect but feare on all sides , and wee hope of flight of any.

Tis true ; wee haue lately taken a wood the entrance of which the Towne did a long time defend and keepe from vs , the which indeede is neere to the Towne and somewhat advantagious to vs , in regard that nature hath so fortified , and made it fit for our purposes : but yet wee haue smale hope , of the long fruiti-

on of it, in regard there is more then probable possibilltie that they will remooue vs out of it, in regard, that the bankes of the Riuers are so sweld, with the late and long continuance of rayne, as we haue little hope: and much feare, that they will force vs out of it, by letting in the water vpon it; for it lyeth somewhat low, and the Riuer may with small difficultie, make an inundation ouer it.

Thus haue I participated vnto you: most accomplitsh Princes, all the affaires our Armie, and miseries of our men, which are so exceeding; that in my opinion, if I may speake it, with your consent and approbation, it is best to relinquish the seidge, and find some other imployment for our Souldiers, the which indeede, howsoeuer it may seeme very difficultie to remoue my Army without the losse of my Ordnances, and great Peices, for it is to be feared, that they cannot so spedily be brought away, as the men and more light Munition,

Yet

Yet it is better agreeable to sense, and  
hath more harmony with Pollicy, to  
loose a limme, then to hazard the whole  
body, and to endanger some of the mem-  
bers of our Army, then to preiudice &  
ouerthrowe all our forces? Thus haue I  
done my duty in relating vnto you, the  
the summe and substance of all the pas-  
sages, betweene the Towne and our  
Campe, and desire to knowe your  
pleasure; for my pulses beate accor-  
ding to the disposition of your  
Royall heart, who am in readi-  
nesse to inact, whatsocuer you  
shall direct me.

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FINIS.

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